

Present constitution (Art. VI, §29) authorizes parishes and municipalities to levy a sales and use tax subject to voter approval. Limits the rate of all sales and use taxes, except state taxes, in a parish or municipality to 3%. Permits the legislature to authorize additional sales and use taxes subject to voter approval.

Existing law (R.S. 33:2711) authorizes any municipality, subject to voter approval, to levy sales and use taxes not to exceed 2-1/2%. However, authorizes such taxes levied in a municipality to exceed the limit established by present constitution by only 1%. Excludes municipalities in the parishes of Concordia, Catahoula, LaSalle, Caldwell, Franklin, and Tensas from authority to exceed the constitutional limit.

Existing law (R.S. 33:2721.6) authorizes any school board or parish to levy, subject to voter approval, sales taxes provided that the rate of all sales taxes collected in the parish or any municipality, exclusive of state sales taxes and law enforcement district sales taxes, does not exceed 4%.

New law authorizes the governing authority of any municipality in a parish with a population in excess of 20,800 but less than 20,850 (according to the latest federal decennial census), subject to voter approval, to levy an additional 1% sales and use tax. Provides that the tax shall be in addition to all other authorized taxes and shall not be subject to the rate limitations established by present constitution or existing law. Further provides that the authority granted in new law shall not limit prior taxing authority granted to the respective municipality or any other political subdivision.

New law further provides that the additional tax shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as other sales and use taxes.

New law authorizes the use of the proceeds for such lawful purposes as are determined by the municipal governing authority, including the funding of a portion thereof into bonds as provided by law.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 20, 1999).

(Adds R.S. 33:2711.15)